

What is Claimed is:

1. A method for detecting molecules expressing a selected epitope in a sample comprising:
- (a) immobilizing a molecule expressing a selected epitope in a sample to a selected surface;
- (b) contacting the surface with an epitope detector so that the epitope detector binds to immobilized molecules on the surface; and
- (c) detecting any epitope detector bound to the surface, wherein bound epitope detector is indicative of molecules expressing the selected epitope in the sample.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the molecule expressing a selected epitope is immobilized to the selected surface via binding to an epitope anchor on the surface which is specific for the selected epitope.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the epitope detector comprises a universal epitope detector which detects a general epitope.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the detected molecule is post-translationally modified.
- Sub B.* 5. A system for the detection of molecules expressing a selected epitope comprising:
- (a) a selected surface on which a molecule expressing a selected epitope is or can be immobilized; and
- (b) an epitope detector comprising a single chain Fv for the selected epitope or a constrained epitope specific CDR either of which have been modified to allow for attachment of oligonucleotides.
6. The system of claim 5 further comprising an epitope anchor for immobilizing the molecule to the

selected surface, said epitope anchor being specific for the selected epitope.

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7. The system of claim 5 wherein the epitope detector comprises a universal epitope detector which
5 detects a general epitope.

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a1*

8. A kit for the detection of molecules expressing a selected epitope comprising an epitope detector comprising a single chain Fv for the selected epitope or a constrained epitope specific CDR.

- 10 9. The kit of claim 8 further comprising an epitope anchor specific for the selected epitope.

10. The kit of claim 8 wherein the single chain Fv or the constrained epitope specific CDR have been modified
15 for attachment of oligonucleotides.

11. The kit of claim 8 wherein the epitope detector comprises a universal epitope detector which detects a general epitope.